

THE GROUNDPLANE



Join SBARA members for our annual Spaghetti Fundraiser & Feast — Come & Meet Chef Jim !!

President's Message — By Al Rendon WT6K

It's October and SBARA will be having our Spaghetti Dinner social evening October 14th in place of the October 14th meeting. We are expecting a large turnout since we sold tickets for 26 dinners at the September meeting. Each household should have received in the mail an invitation to the dinner. We will be following up with a telephone call for the final reminder. If you haven't bought your ticket(s) yet, just call me at 510 656-2427 or e-mail me at wt6k@arrl.net to buy/ reserve your ticket. Jim Wood KE6IVA will be doing the cooking and he would like to know how much food to buy and prepare. It should be a fun evening visiting and sharing the meal with your amateur radio friends. See the article in this issue for details on ticket price, etc.

Also in this issue of the Groundplane you will find an article on the Slate of Candidates and Open positions for next years leadership team. I thank all the members that joined in this year's team. We had a good year primarily due to these people. Many are continuing on in 2006. Some have already served for two years and are not. Please take a look and see if you can join the team to continue the programs and events that have made this year interesting. I can promise you that no one person has a lot of work to do. The leadership philosophy has been to break the tasks down into small bits. Most all the leadership team positions require very little time and only doing one thing. I would point out that the appointed positions like Webmaster, newsletter editor, membership, raffle

coordinator, programs and refreshment coordinator are task-orientated positions, i.e., there is a job to do. On the other hand, the elected positions are leadership roles that in general require planning strategies, deciding what direction to go and are not task orientated. Neither group requires a lot of your time. Please join if you like what you see SBARA doing. There is a 'Job Description' for each position if you are interested in seeing what is required to serve. Help if you can find it in your heart to do so. Lets keep the momentum going in 2006.

73, Al WT6K

October Program

Spaghetti Dinner will take the place of the October meeting and presentation. No presentation, no formal meeting... just a social event... the Spaghetti Dinner!!!

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HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Articles of Interest:

- Signal 14
- Haunted Shack
- Membership Renewal
- Geocaching

SBARA SPAGHETTI DINNER — BY SAM SEVERS — WS6S

This month the SBARA board has replaced the monthly membership meeting with a spaghetti dinner & I'm not talking Chef Boyardee.



Our own Jim Wood / KE6IVA is whipping up a great dinner that will include a green salad & garlic bread that President Al Rendon / WT6K has previously tasted and rated very highly. There will be door prizes and a 50/50 drawing instead of our usual raffle and there will be no club business to conduct. It's a great time to just relax and socialize...bring your spouse, kids and friends!

TICKET PRICES:

Adults (12 years and older)	\$10
Children (under 12)	\$3
Family Ticket (maximum of 6 people)	\$30

We really need an advanced head count so please call SBARA President Al Rendon / WT6K and let him know ASAP if your going to attend. Incidentally, we are looking for volunteers to help with setup, serving, cleanup & breakdown and we could use a bartender as well (wine & soft drinks will be served as well). Please join us and help make this a memorable event (like maybe an annual spaghetti dinner?)

Remember, give Al a call at 510-656-2427 (or e-mail him wt6k@arrl.net) right now & let him know that you plan to attend. I'm looking forward to seeing every one of you and having a great time!

Sam Severs WS6S
SBARA Treasurer



OPERATIONAL AND EVENT NEWS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Description</u>
October 7 th	7:30PM	Board Meeting
October 14 th	7:30PM	Family Dinner Fundraiser
October 14-16 th	Varies	Pacificon 2005, San Ramon Marriott
November 4 th	7:30PM	Board Meeting
November 11 th	7:30PM	General Meeting – 2006 Leadership Elections
December 9 th	6:00PM	Holiday Dinner – Veterans Hall

SBARA Board 2006 Officers Slate & Open Positions

ELECTED POSITIONS

PRESIDENT	OPEN	
VICE PRESIDENT	OPEN	
TREASURE	OPEN	
SECRETARY	DON GINTEL	KG6SEB

APPOINTED BOARD MEMBERS

WEBMASTER	TONY FUSCHE	AB6BR
NEWSLETTER EDIT:	BILL ARTELT	WB9YVM
NEWSLETTER CIRC:	SYD FURMAN	W6QWK
MEMBERSHIP:	SYD FURMAN	W6QWK
RAFFLE COORDINATOR:	GENE ARRILLAGA	KF6ZYD
QUARTERMASTER:	JIM WOOD	KE6IVA
PROGRAMS:	OPEN	
PHOTOGRAPHER:	GARY McCULLEY	KD6TKV
REFRESHMENTS:	OPEN	

BOARD MEMBERS

AT LARGE:	
SEAN ROMERIL	KG6VNS
LLOYD HARTSHORN	N6DOK
SAM SEVERS	WS6S

2006 Leadership Team Nominations will be taken from the floor up to 10 minutes before the election at the SBARA meeting on November 11th, 2005

DF NOTES — By MIKE STUDER — K6EEP

I did some research after our last meeting on Radio Direction Finding. I was looking for a nice Doppler system. I found the VE2EMM Doppler III. It looked so nice that I ordered the PIC chips and the PC boards. Here is the main web page, <http://www.gsl.net/ve2emm/pic-projects/doppler3/doppler3-e.html>

And there are lots of cool mods out there. Here is a good mod page for it,

<http://www.ussc.com/~turner/emm3.html>

It is not a simple project to tackle since it's not a full kit. So it is really going to be labor intensive. And you have to make your own antennas.

Ham Ringtones for you Cell Phone

<http://www.braintank.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk/midi/morse2mid.php>

My kids are now positive I am a geek. My phone sends CQ.

Linux Callsign lookup tool

I wrote this program to do callsign lookups on qrz.com. It is quick and

simple. Any OS that you might have Qt on can compile and run this. Qt is available here:

<http://trolltech.com> And my program is called Callgit and is available at <http://hamsoftware.org>

DXpedition K7C active on HF from Kure Atoll Here is their web site,

<http://www.cordell.org/htdocs/KURE/>



2006 OFFICER NOMINATIONS — By BILL ARTELT — WB9YVM

Anyone who has been around for more than a year knows that October is the time we nominate our Officers for the coming year, along with nominees for any open Board positions. This means we need nominees for President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. We also have board position opening which have to be filled.

This is the perfect time for you our members to seriously consider becoming more active in running the club by taking a in our future direction for the

coming year. Your wont be hung out on a limb other members and past officers will be there to help you. If you have any questions or are interested in running, feel free to talk to any of us currently in office. We will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Would you consider volunteering to run for one of these exciting positions?

Bill — WB9YVM

SIGNAL 14 — 40 METER PULSE SIGNAL. FACT OR FICTION?

Over The Horizon Radar ?

Since about August 20, 2005 myself and others have been receiving a pulsed signal on the low end of 40m. I've read complaints about the signal from others on various radio related [e-mail reflectors](#). I've heard it from about 7.000 to 7.050 MHz and others have heard it from 7.030 to 7.070 MHz at other times.

- **Update:** September 7, 2005 - Others have reported the same signal on numerous bands as high as 10m, although I have not confirmed that they are hearing exactly the same signal. However, tonight I did hear the signal at 0200 UTC until 0210 UTC from about 7115 kHz to 7175 kHz. It also has been reported being heard as far away as Australia.

The signal isn't on all of the time but when it is on it is often on for hours at a time. I've heard it well in the afternoon and at night from here in north Texas. Given the pulse modulation and wide bandwidth I suspect that it is some kind of Over The

Horizon Radar transmission. During a long recording that I made selective fading is very evident on the signal so it is pretty obvious that it is a skywave signal and not just local RFI.

Here are the technical parameters the best I can tell using a maximum detection bandwidth of 3 kHz:

- Frequency = 7,000-7,050 kHz, 7,115-7,175 kHz (others also report 7,030-7,070 kHz)
- Bandwidth = ~50 kHz
- Pulswidth = <400 us (my receiver bandwidth limits my ability to measure this)
- PRF (Pulse Repetition Frequency) = 18.15 Hz
- Period = 55 ms
- Unambiguous Range = <5,000 miles (if a radar)

At this time it is just an irritating nuisance much like the old "Woodpecker" of years gone by.

Steve Yates — AA5TB
Fort Worth, Texas

HAUNTED SHACK.....

Some rather odd quirks distinguish hams from the ordinary mass of folk, and this "shack" business was a perfect example. Never mind the strange beeping noises that thump through their headphones in the middle of the night. What kind of hobbyist proudly inhabits a "haunted-shack"? Why not call it a "laboratory?" I dug around and found out some answers why we live in the haunted-shack.

The designation has its roots in early Marconi experiments conducted from rickety and creepy wood-and-tarpaper shelters constructed on the deck of



US Navy ships. Later installations were more permanent affairs, yet still separated from the rest of the crew, usually on an upper deck just behind the bridge. The small metal enclosure came to be known as "the wireless shack" and later as "the radio shack" (no not the store silly). As any old salt faring seaman knows, the first thing done in a naval battle was to lob a shell into the enemy's radio shack in order to prevent calls for assistance. Little wonder that shipboard radio operators were typically high-strung, jittery young fellows.

This my friends is the "Haunted Shack" tale...

W3FF BUDDIEPOLE — MEET BUD AND CHRIS AT PACIFICON 2005!

Howdy All,

Pacificon 2005 is going to be held again this year at the San Ramon, CA Marriott hotel. One of the highlights of the convention is the Saturday HFpack Forum, and other activities throughout the entire weekend. The Buddipole Guys are always present as a big part of the forum.

This year, the theme of the forum is "HFpack Traveling". We will be featuring guest speakers, Equipment Demos, and a door prize raffle at the end of the forum. At the beginning of the Equipment Demo segment, Budd W3FF will be describing the latest Buddipole products for the Traveler. It is always great to meet Budd, and his son Chris in person at Pacificon. This particular convention will be a great show, but IMHO the "must-see" attraction is still the W3FF Antennas Buddipole booth at the exhibits.

Pacificon 2005 is worth the expense if you live outside of the San Francisco bay area. Drive, fly, or hitchhike if you must to see this convention, and the HFpack Forum. In addition to traveling, we will be discussing how HFpack and the Buddipole can help others become more prepared for future

emergencies. Kudos to the Buddipole Guys for making antennas that assisted Emergency communications after the Katrina/Rita disasters.

The Buddipole Guys had also donated a special Mystery Prize to the HFpack Traveling Raffle. It will be something everyone can use.. eh?

For more info on the convention, and the HFpack Forum, go to www.pacificon.org. Click on the HFpack menu button to see the entire HFpack weekend events.

73, Ken WB6MLC

Editor's Note: Additional information on the Buddipole can be found at:

<http://www.buddipole.com/index.html> and HFpack information is found at: <http://www.hfpack.com/>

Bill, WB9YVM



GEOCACHING — GPS STASH HUNT

Geocaching is an entertaining adventure game for gps users. Participating in a cache hunt is a good way to take advantage of the wonderful features and capability of a gps unit. The basic idea is to have individuals and organizations set up caches all over the world and share the locations of these caches on the internet. GPS users can then use the location coordinates to find the caches. Once found, a cache may provide the visitor with a wide

variety of rewards. All the visitor is asked to do is if they get something they should try to leave something for the cache. Visit the Geocaching website at <http://www.geocaching.com> for all the details on this exciting pastime. Enter you ZIP code at [geocaching.com](http://www.geocaching.com) and take a look at the results. Interested in forming a SBARA Geocaching team? Contact Bill — WB9YVM at hamradio@comcast.net.

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SBARA New Membership Form (Dues paid annually)

- ☐ **New Regular Member** \$30.00 includes Name Badge (required)
- ☐ **New Senior Member** \$20.00 (65 or older) includes \$10.00 Name Badge (required)
- ☐ **New Family Membership** (all at same address) \$35.00 includes One Name Badge (required)

Name: _____ Call: _____ ☐ ARRL? ☐ RACES/ARES?

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: () _____ Email: _____

Additional Family Members (at same mailing address)

Name: _____ Call: _____ ☐ ARRL? ☐ RACES/ARES?

Name: _____ Call: _____ ☐ ARRL? ☐ RACES/ARES?

Name: _____ Call: _____ ☐ ARRL? ☐ RACES/ARES?

Name: _____ Call: _____ ☐ ARRL? ☐ RACES/ARES?

☐ SBARA Name tag with your callsign \$8.00 each ☐ SBARA T-Shirt \$20.00 XS / S / M / L / XL

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Comments or Special Interests:

_____ cut here _____

**Mail form and dues to: Membership Chairman, SBARA, PO Box 8337,
Fremont, CA. 94537**

Handy Web Links

SBARA Web Site	http://www.qsl.net/sbara
ARRL Main Site	http://www.arrl.org/
ARRL SCV Division	http://www.arrl.org/sections/SCV.html
ARRL East Bay Section	http://www.pdarrrl.org/ebsec/index.html
ARRL Contest Page	http://www.arrl.orgcontests
Contest Calendar	http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal
Callsign Lookup (QRZ)	http://www.qrz.com/
Vanity Callsign Info	http://www.vanityhq.com/
IRLP Main Page	http://www.irlp.net/
AMSAT	http://www.amsat.org/
FCC Services	http://wireless.fcc.gov/services/amateur

SBARA on the Internet at

<http://www.qsl.net/sbara>

On the Air at 147.015 + PL 103.5

Fremont Repeaters & Net Information

WA6PWW - 147.015 +600Khz, PL 103.5
 WA6PWW - 223.900 -500Khz, PL 107.2
 WA6PWW - 442.600 +5Mhz, PL 107.2
 N6OXR - 146.94 -600Khz, PL 123.0
 N6OXR - 441.525 +5Mhz, PL 123.0
 ARES - Tuesday @ 7:30pm - 147.015 + PL 103.5

Groundplane SBARA Newsletter Copyright 2005 SBARA

The Groundplane is published monthly by the South Bay Amateur Radio Association. Articles and letters are always welcome. The normal deadline for material is six days prior to the end of the previous month. Articles can be sent by email to hamradio@comcast.net or via U.S. Mail. Contact the Editor for details and submission guidelines. The opinions expressed in the Groundplane are strictly those of the authors.

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The Ground Plane



ANNOUNCEMENTS

SBARA monthly meeting:

October 14th at the Veterans Hall in Niles

October is Spaghetti Month See You at 6PM for
Dinner... Our Chef is

Jim KE6IVA



Haunted Shack — Halloween Edition

The Ground Plane—KU6S

<http://www.qsl.net/sbara>

South Bay Amateur Radio Association — SBARA

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